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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nancy A. Noble et al.
Serial No.: 09/869,820
Filed: July 5, 2001
Docket: 30434.4USWO
Title: METHODS FOR TREATING CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCUMULATION OF EXCESS EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

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By:

Name: Renato Marco P. Domingo

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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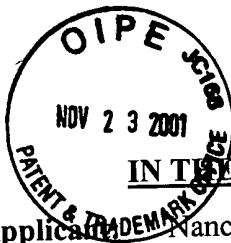
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3))Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. They are as follows:

- U.S. Patent No. 5,571,714 issued November 5, 1996 – **Exhibit 1**
- International Publication No. WO91/04748 published April 18, 1991 – **Exhibit 2**
- International Publication No. WO93/09800 published May 27, 1993 – **Exhibit 3**
- International Publication No. WO93/10808 published June 10, 1993 – **Exhibit 4**
- International Publication No. WO96/25178 published August 22, 1996 – **Exhibit 5**
- International Publication No. WO97/39028 published October 23, 1997 – **Exhibit 6**
- International Publication No. WO99/34823 published July 15, 1999 – **Exhibit 7**
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- Zhu, Ning et al., "Systemic Gene Expression After Intravenous DNA Delivery into Adult Mice," *Science*, 261:209-11, 1993 – **Exhibit 141**
- Ziyadeh, Fuad N. et al., "Stimulation of Collagen Gene Expression and Protein Synthesis in Murine Mesangial Cells by High Glucose is Mediated by Autocrine Activation of Transforming Growth Factor- β ," *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 93:536-42, 1994 – **Exhibit 142**

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), copies of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that the references have been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449,

marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0306.

Respectfully submitted,

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